



News Release

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Local Youths Win Pitch, Hit and Run Contest

A number of participants competed in the Pepsi Major League Baseball Pitch, Hit and Run competition hosted by Columbia Parks and Recreation on Saturday, May 6 at Oakland Park.

These area youth won first place honors in their respective age groups: age 7-8--Brandon Bowden of Columbia, overall winner, pitch champion and hit champion; Bo Blomenkamp of Columbia, run champion. Age 9-10 categories winner was Mason Murray of Columbia, overall winner, pitch champion, hit champion and run champion. In the age 11-12 category, Nate Gutwein of Columbia was overall winner, pitch champion, hit champion and run champion.

The winners will now compete in the sectionals competition. The site and date is to be determined. Sectional all-around champions become eligible to qualify for the team championship, to be held at Busch Stadium in St. Louis.

Pitch, Hit and Run is the official skills competition of Major League Baseball®. This grassroots program is designed to provide youngsters with an opportunity to compete, free of charge, in a competition that recognizes individual excellence in core baseball skills. In the pitch component of the competition, participants must throw strikes at a designated target. In the hit component, participants are tested for distance and accuracy by hitting a ball off a tee, and in the run portion, participants are timed starting from second base, touching third base and then home.